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RURAL DISTRICT OF ULVERSTON.

TOWN HALL,
ULVERSTON,

April, 1943.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

This will be the fourth successive year that Medical Officers have been requested to curtail their report, on account of war conditions, as much as possible.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Although, to some extent Public Health work has been in abeyance, your Inspectors have kept their respective districts under close supervision, in addition a considerable amount of extra work has been thrown upon them by the exigencies of the war.

The Council can congratulate themselves upon having Inspectors with an excellent knowledge of their work and a keen enthusiasm to carry out their duties. Their work is arranged in a satisfactory manner, each Inspector supervising an area of the district, but under the control of the Medical Officer of Health, who may vary the arrangement should necessity require it.

WATER SUPPLIES.

GENERALLY.—The water in storage maintained a fairly high level until the month of September, and there was never any real cause for anxiety as to the actual failure of any of our

supplies, some of the smaller schemes reached the margin of safety. I cannot approach the question of Water Supplies in the Rural District without, at once, drawing attention to the anxiety and inconvenience that has been caused by the failure or fear of failure of the supply to that part of your district known as the Cartmel Valley and the village of Allithwaite. The undertakers for the supply are the Grange Council, who I can confidently say have been anxious to do everything in their power to avoid the inconvenience and danger which must arise out of a failure of the supply, but there has been a want of friendly co-operation between the two Authorities concerned which it is difficult to understand, seeing that the interests of the Authorities is so essentially parallel the one with the other.

Fortunately the water level in the reservoir never fell to such an extent as to cause anxiety until April, and this only lasted for a month.

The laying of the 10-inch main from Simpson Ground to the reservoir should result in the water being conveyed much more rapidly to the reservoir during flood times, but no diameter main can convey water which is not there, and this means that sooner or later additional storage will have to be provided, and I am aware that the Grange Council have a scheme for providing this when times become more normal.

The Grange Council have been the undertakers for the supply of water to the Cartmel Valley district and the village of Allithwaite since the year 1910, and from the very beginning the failure of the supply during seasons of drought was a source of anxiety, and obviously this anxiety is increased now that the consumption has gone up to more than double the amount taken in 1910. Let us hope that the two Councils will meet without

delay to prepare for the time when the work which is to put an end to the existing deadlock can be undertaken.

HAWKSHEAD.—With the additional storage tank constructed at these works the supply never failed, and the Council have very wisely provided for an emergency supply, which is to be drawn from Goose Foot Tarn.

KIRKBY DISTRICT.—I mentioned in my last report that the Barrow Corporation, with the object of providing for the increased requirements of the town, had installed a booster at Askam, with the result that the Kirkby District was entirely deprived of its supply. The Council have now provided a supplementary supply by laying a pipe line from High Gill Beck to the Beckside main.

BAYCLIFF.—The water supply to Baycliff has been a frequent source of trouble. To avoid this in the future a tank is to be constructed near the summit of Aldingham Hill to fill at night : in this way a constant supply should be available.

DRAINAGE.

CONISTON.—The sewerage of Coniston has now been completed with the exception of a few houses near the bridge.

As I relinquish my office I think I might recapitulate some of the works of water supply and sewerage which have been projected during my term of service, work, which I think, reflects great credit upon successive generations of Councillors.

Water Supplies : Wray, Sawrey, Hawkshead (greatly improved), Coniston, Grizebeck, Kirkby, Oxenpark, Broughton East, Cartmel, Cark and Holker, Flookburgh, Allithwaite, Haverthwaite, Backbarrow and Browedge, Staveley, Urswick (Much and Little), Leece, Gleaston, Dendron, Scales, Baycliff, Stainton,

Highfield, Aldingham, Greenodd and Lowick, Broughton Beck.

Sewerage : Coniston, Haverthwaite, Leece, Gleaston, Kirkby, Foxfield, Scales, Baycliff, Bardsea, Allithwaite, Lindale-in-Cartmel, Cark, Holker, Flookburgh, Cartmel. Newton-in-Cartmel.

Even with all this amount of excellent work accomplished there are certain schemes long overdue, for example :

Water Supplies : Outgate, Lakeside, Blawith and the Coast Road.

Sewerage : Much and Little Urswick, Chappels, Highfield, and Newbiggin.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

A considerable amount of work has been done in building new, and remodelling old cowsheds, but it would be impossible to say that our milk supply is generally produced under satisfactory conditions. The conditions under which many of the dairy cattle are housed leaves much to be desired, but I fear it will not be easy to bring about a better state of things until times become more normal. Meanwhile, our aim should be to keep the premises under close supervision, which, it will be realised, is not a very easy matter, considering the very large number of milk producers in your district, and the time cannot be far distant when a special Inspector will have to be provided for this purpose.

HOUSING.

I need scarcely say that activity under the Housing Act has been entirely in abeyance, and houses which previous to 1939 had been under an Order for Closure and Demolition, are still occupied and cannot be vacated so long as the ban on building remains operative.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

This most important branch of Public Health administration is mainly carried out by contract and generally speaking may be said to be quite satisfactory.

POPULATION.—It is impossible, in the absence of a census enumeration to do more than give an approximate estimate of the population of the district and I am taking it as being the same as in 1941, viz., 18,000.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 127,485.

Population (1931) enumerated 16,719.

Estimated (end of 1941) 18,000.

Number of inhabited houses, 4,948.

Rateable value, £73,592.

Amount produced by a penny rate, £288. 11s. 5d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.		Total.	Male.	Female	Rate per 1000
Legitimate	..	189	94	95	
Illegitimate	..	7	4	3	
TOTALS		196	98	98	10.8

DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS.

		1st quarter		2nd quarter		3rd quarter		4th quarter		Total		Rate per 1000
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Broughton West		8	8	8	8	5	14	5	5	26	35	
Cartmel	..	10	6	4	6	9	6	6	6	29	24	
Dalton	..	4	8	3	4	2	4	8	7	17	23	
Ulverston	..	6	3	9	7	8	3	3	3	26	16	
Totals		28	25	24	25	24	27	22	21	98	98	10.8

Last year there were 217 births, producing a rate per 1,000 of 12.0.

DEATHS.

The actual number of deaths registered as occurring in your district is 203, but of these 25 have been transferred to the district to which they belong, being non-residential, which reduces the deaths of the resident population to 178. To these must be added 72 deaths of residents which have occurred outside the district, bringing the correct number of deaths to 250, and the rate per 1,000 to 13.3. In the year 1941, there were 225 deaths, the death-rate then being 12.5 per 1,000.

DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

	1st quarter		2nd quarter		3rd quarter		4th quarter		Totals		Rate per 1000
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Broughton West	12	6	12	6	5	3	6	9	35	24	
Cartmel ..	12	14	7	11	3	10	10	9	32	44	
Dalton ..	9	6	4	5	8	9	5	5	26	25	
Ulverston ..	7	16	10	4	6	7	6	8	29	35	
Totals	40	42	33	26	22	29	29	35	122	128	13.3

AGE PERIODS AT WHICH THE DEATHS OCCURRED:

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 year	6	9	15
Between 1 and 65 ..	44	28	72
65 and Upwards ..	72	91	163
Totals	122	128	250

INFANTILE DEATHS, which means the deaths of infants before reaching the end of their first year of life as compared with the number of recorded births, and I find that there have been 15 deaths at this age period, which equals 76.5 per 1,000 births, as compared with 55.0 per 1,000 in 1941.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INFANTILE DEATHS.

	Broughton West.		Cartmel.		Dalton		Ulverston		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Premature Birth	1	2	1	..	1	1	2	3	5
Congenital Defects	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	3
Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Accident	1	1	..	1	1
Totals	..	1	4	1	..	2	2	5	6	9
Rate per 1000 Births	16.3		91.3		50.0		166.6		76.5	

The Infantile death-rate would appear at first glance to be very high in the Cartmel and Ulverston Registration Areas, but we have to remember that we are dealing with a small birth-rate where every death makes a great difference.

TUBERCULAR DISEASES.—Although it is within the province of the Public Health Department to take a record of the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district and the deaths arising therefrom, the actual treatment devolves upon the County Tuberculosis Department. The tables herewith give the notifications received and the districts in which the cases occurred and the deaths arising from all forms of Tuberculosis.

			New Cases				Deaths			
			Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Broughton West	..	..	4	2			1			
Cartmel	..	..	2	1						
Dalton	..	..	6				1			
Ulverston..	..	..	2	1	2					1
Totals			14	4	2		2			1

AGE PERIODS OF NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS.

			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Age—Periods			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years.										
0—1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1—5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
5—10	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
10—15	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
15—20	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
20—25	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
25—35	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
35—45	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45—55	..	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
55—65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Totals			14	4	2	..	2	..	..	1
			18		2		2		1	

It will be seen from the above table that there have been two deaths from Tuberculosis of the Lungs, equal to a rate per 1,000 of .11, one from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, equal to a rate per 1,000 of .05. In 1941 the death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was .44 per 1,000.

CANCER.—From the various manifestations of Cancer there have been 28 deaths, distributed as per table herewith.

CANCER.
DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

			Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per 1000
Broughton West	..	..	5	6	11	
Cartmel	..	..	4	4	8	
Dalton	..	..		1	1	
Ulverston	..	..	4	4	8	
Totals			13	15	28	1.55

ORGANS AFFECTED AND AGE PERIODS AT WHICH
THE DISEASE HAS OCCURRED.

	15-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65 up.		Total.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Liver	1	..	1
Bladder	1	..	1	..
Stomach	1	..	3	1	4	1
Rectum	1	..	..	2	1	2	2
Glands	1	..	1	..
Intestine	1	..	1	..	..	4	2	4
Pancreas	2	..	2	..	4
Lung	1	..	1
Mouth	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Oesophagus	1	..	1	..
Breast	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
Brain	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
TOTALS	1	..	..	..	2	2	2	3	8	10	13	15

From the above tables it will be observed that thirteen males and fifteen females have fallen victims to the various manifestations of Cancer, equal to a death-rate per 1,000 of 1.55. In 1941 there were 53 deaths from the disease, equal to a rate per 1,000 of 1.83.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 up-wards	Cases Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ..	22	1	..	3	1	2	10	5	1	..	1	..	..	..	20	..
Diphtheria ..	8	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	8	..
Whooping Cough ..	24	1	1	2	4	15	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	89	2	..	6	20	55	5	1	..	..	5	3	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia ..	23	2	1	..	1	2	1	4	1	2	1	1	..	..	7	2
Para Typhoid Fever ..	12	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	1	..
Cerebro Sp. Fever	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..
Puerperal Sepsis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	188	5	2	12	27	75	20	16	7	11	9	4	..	..	37	2

The laboratory work of the Authority is carried out at the Laboratory of the Liverpool University.

All Sera, including that for Diphtheria Immunisation are supplied free by the Authority to Medical Practitioners.

In concluding my last report, may I say that it has been a privilege to serve your Authority for very nearly 45 years, and I must thank the Members and Officials for their kindness and consideration.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON.

L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., D.P.H. Lond.

Late Medical Officer of Health.

April, 1943.

